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Kurt

From: Steve Sachs [ssa@sandag.org]
Sent: Tuesday, October 08, 2002 11:04 AM
To: Irene; Kurt
Cc: SANDAG REPS to REPAC ;; SANDAG REPS to REPAC ;; @sandag.cog.ca.us; bpa@capricorn.sandag.cog.ca.us; mmc@capricorn.sandag.cog.ca.us
Subject: SANDAG Staff Comments on San Diego Regional Energy Infrastructure Study

Irene, Kurt, Councilmembers Jones, McCoy, Rozmus and Stocks;

I was asked to send SANDAG staff comments on the REIS to you all, although Kurt has heard all this from me in various conversations and meetings in the course of the development of the report. I hope this is useful to you all at our discussions tomorrow at REPAC. If you have any questions or comments for me, please call me or pass them on tomorrow.

- The REIS is the most comprehensive and in-depth review of the region's energy situation and future possibilities that we have had to work with in a public process that I can remember (I was project manager for SANDAG's first Energy Plan in 1978). The SDREO and project sponsors are to be commended for supporting its development. The report is especially important now that there is no state/utility process to plan and implement our energy future as there was up until 1996.

- Please keep in mind that, from SANDAG's standpoint, the REIS is also important in that, along with the Binational Energy Strategy Report, it will provide the informational basis for the SDREO and REPAC to put together a Draft Regional Energy Strategy for consideration by the SANDAG Board of Directors. SANDAG's schedule has the Draft Strategy starting the SANDAG review process around the first of the year, with adoption of the Strategy as the Energy Element of the Regional Comprehensive Plan in the early Spring. This is a demanding schedule - your support will be needed to keep the REPAC moving to accomplish it.

-A couple of more technical comments follow that I think can be addressed in the Regional Energy Strategy, although I think that SAIC and the REIS sponsors group can still be useful in working through these issues. Maybe they can continue to meet as a working group to develop additional information - they all have a stake in the results:

- The specific energy efficiency, distributed generation and renewable programs and technologies discussed in Chapter 5 are, along with electric and gas infrastructure sections, the heart of the report as these comprise the action options we have to work with. Many of these programs and technologies, although well known by the SAIC authors and many of the project sponsors, are not well defined in the report (or the appendices where readers are sent for more details). I think SAIC owes us a clear description - in plain english, without acronyms - of what they are and what level of implementation would yield the energy savings, etc. shown in the report; e.g. how many lights of what kind are retrofitted in commercial buildings, what % of the lighting stock is involved, how many per year, etc. SAIC had to make these assumptions to get their results, but I can't find them in the report. We need to know them to move forward with a strategy and implementation.

-One of the key ideas put forth in the REIS is the need for the public sector in the region to

a very important issue - leaving it to the uncertainties and motivations of the private sector and the currently limited state and federal capabilities is risky to the region's economy and environment. The REIS simply states the need and suggests a Joint Powers Authority as a possible solution. What's needed is an analysis of the need and options to meet it. What specifically needs to be done that is not getting done or is done inadequately now? Participation in CPUC proceedings? Sharing of information about plans for public and private projects around the region? Coordinating timing and sizing of those projects? Grouping energy efficiency projects for economies of scale and cost savings? Issuing revenue bonds to support construction of new power plants? What existing entities have the ability to carry out these actions? Are there ways to coordinate and implement using existing entities and authorities? If not, what new powers are needed and what are the steps necessary to create new capabilities? These are the types of questions we need to be able to answer to allow the region's decision makers to seriously address this issue.

Again, I'm available to talk about these comments in more detail if you're interested.

Steve

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